

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

ACS STATE HEALTHCARE, LLC, a
Delaware Limited Liability Company,

Plaintiff,

vs.

FOURTHOUGHT GROUP, INC.,

Defendant-Intervenor.

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4:08CV3021

FOURTH AMENDED
FINAL PROGRESSION ORDER

This matter is before the Court on the Joint Motion to Continue Trial Date and Amend Third Amended Final Progression Order (Filing No. 264).

IT IS ORDERED:

1. **Mandatory Disclosures.** The mandatory disclosures described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(1) shall be completed by **June 12, 2008**.
2. **Discovery Deadline.** All discovery, whether or not intended to be used at trial, shall be completed by **February 12, 2010**. All interrogatories, requests for admission and requests for production or inspection, whether or not they are intended to be used at trial, shall be served sufficiently early to allow rule time response before that date. Counsel may stipulate to extensions of time to respond to discovery requests in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 29, as amended, but such extensions shall not extend any of the dates in this order; any requests for extensions of any of the deadlines herein shall be made by appropriate motion and order.
3. **Limits on Discovery.** Each party is limited to serving **sixty (60) interrogatories**, including subparts, on any other party. Each party is limited to taking **twenty-two (22) depositions** in this case, without leave of court. Depositions shall be limited by Rule 30(d)(2).

4. **Disclosure of Expert Witnesses.**¹ On or before **February 23, 2009**, the plaintiff shall have identified all expert witnesses and shall serve the defendant with the statement required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2) regarding each expert witness it expects to call to testify at trial pursuant to the provisions of Rule 702, 703 or 705, Fed. Rules of Evidence. On or before **March 30, 2009**, the defendants and FourThought shall identify all expert witnesses and shall serve the plaintiff with the statement required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2) regarding each expert witness it expects to call to testify at trial pursuant to the provisions of Rules 702, 703, or 705, Federal Rules of Evidence. If necessary to refute the disclosed opinions of an expert witness of an opponent, a party may disclose additional expert witnesses no later than **May 4, 2009**, provided that the disclosing party then provides all of the information described in Fed. R. Civ. P. Rule 26(a)(2) and makes the expert witness available for deposition prior to the date set for completion of deposition. Supplementation of these disclosures, if originally made prior to these deadlines, shall be made on these deadlines as to any information for which supplementation is addressed in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(e). The testimony of the expert at trial shall be limited to the information disclosed in accordance with this paragraph.

5. **Pretrial Disclosures:** Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(3), each party shall provide to all other parties the following information regarding the evidence that it may present at trial other than solely for impeachment purposes as soon as practicable **but not later than the date specified:**

A. **Nonexpert Witnesses - 30 days prior to deposition deadline:** The name, address and telephone number of each witness, separately identifying those whom the party expects to present and those whom the party may call if the need arises.

B. **Deposition Testimony and Discovery - 5 days before final pretrial conference:** 1) The portions of each deposition, designated by page

¹ Generally, a treating physician shall not be deemed to be "retained or specially employed to provide expert testimony in a case" within the meaning of Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2)(B), but a treating physician must be identified pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2)(A).

and line, that it intends to offer and 2) each discovery response of another party it intends to offer. Such designations and any objections thereto shall also be included in the final pretrial conference order. **See NELR 16.2.**

- C. Trial Exhibits - 5 working days before final pretrial conference:** A list of all exhibits it expects to offer by providing a numbered listing and permitting examination of such exhibits. The parties shall also designate on the list those exhibits it may offer only if the need arises.
- D. Waiver of Objections:** Any objections to the use of witnesses, deposition designations, discovery responses, or exhibits shall be listed in the pretrial order. Failure to list objections (except those under Fed. R. Evid. 402 and 403) shall be deemed waived, unless excused by the court for good cause shown.
- E. Filing of Disclosures:** The filing of pretrial disclosures required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(3) shall be deemed filed at the time of the filing of the Order on Final Pretrial Conference in this matter.

6. **Expert Witness Testimony.** Any motion challenging the qualifications of an expert or the admissibility of testimony of an expert witness under Rule 702, Fed. Rules of Evidence shall be filed not later than **March 26, 2010**, in the absence of which any objection based upon said rule shall be deemed waived. **See *Kumho Tire Co., Ltd. v. Carmichael***, 526 U.S. 137 (1999); ***Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals***, 509 U.S. 579 (1993).

7. **Rule 104 Hearings.** Any pretrial motion which will require an evidentiary hearing pursuant to Fed. R. Evid. 104 shall be filed not later than five (5) working days following the deadline for the completion of depositions.

In addition, if the requested hearing involves a Daubert - Kumho question regarding an expert, the expert's disclosure under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(2)(2)(A)&(B) must be submitted to Judge Strom's chambers when the motion is filed.

Absence of a request for a hearing may be deemed waiver of the right to a hearing. A brief in support and all material regarding the requested hearing must be

delivered to Judge Strom's chambers when the Rule 104 hearing motion is filed. Opposing parties are given ten (10) days thereafter to deliver briefs in opposition.

8. **Adding Parties; Amending Pleadings.** Any motions to add parties or to amend pleadings to this action for the plaintiff shall be filed **on or before August 1, 2008**; any motions to add parties or to amend pleadings in this action for state defendant shall be filed **on or before September 1, 2008**; any motions to add parties or to amend pleadings in this action for FourThought shall be filed **on or before September 1, 2008**.

9. **All** motions for summary judgment shall be filed no later than **March 5, 2010**. See NELR 56.1 and 7.1.

10. **The Final Pretrial Conference** is set for **April 26 , 2010 at 9:30 a.m.** before Magistrate F. A. Gossett, in chambers, Suite 2210, Roman L. Hruska United States Courthouse, 111 South 18th Plaza, Omaha, Nebraska. The final pretrial conference shall be attended by lead counsel for represented parties. Counsel shall complete prior to the pretrial conference, all items as directed in NELR 16.2. By the time of the pretrial conference, full preparation for trial shall have been made so that trial may begin at any time during the session indicated below.

11. All other provisions of parties joint planning conference report not addressed in this order shall be deemed submitted and adopted by the Court.

12. **Trial** is set to commence **at 9:00 a.m. on May 10, 2010**, in Omaha, Nebraska, before the Honorable Lyle E. Strom and a jury.

13. **Motions to Alter Dates.** All requests for changes of date settings shall be directed to the undersigned judge by appropriate motion.

DATED this 17th day of December, 2009.

BY THE COURT:

s/ LYLE E. STROM
United States District Judge